

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 03338 131043Z

51

ACTION AEC-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 SCI-06 L-03 OMB-01 HEW-08 NAS-01

NSF-04 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 /058 W

----- 081042

R 130839Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 575

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TOKYO 3338

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: TECH

SUBJ: ABCC

REF: A. STATE 47328, B. TOKYO 1320, C. TOKYO 1737

1. IN DISCUSSION WITH SCICOUNS, AEC REP, AND POLITICAL OFFICER, MATSUURA, PRIOR TO HIS RECENT WASHINGTON TRIP, EXPRESSED REGRET FOR SLOW PACE OF PREPARATION OF GOJ DRAFTS OF ABCC RESTRUCTURING DOCUMENTS. HE DISPLAYED TWO BULKY JAPANESE LANGUAGE DRAFTS TO DEMONSTRATE THAT SOMETHING IS BEING DONE, AND SAID THAT GOJ WOULD HOPE TO COMPLETE DRAFTS IN TIME FOR INITIAL DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON IN APRIL. MATSUURA SAID THAT TO CONFORM TO GOJ BUDGET CYCLE THEY WOULD HOPE NEGOTIATIONS COULD BE CONCLUDED BY JUNE '74. EMBREPS NOTED THAT THIS WAS TIGHT SCHEDULE, AND STRESSED THAT UNDERSTANDING THAT ABCC WOULD BE RESTRUCTURED AND 50-50 FINANCIAL SUPPORT INITIATED BY APRIL 75 COULD NOT, IN US VIEW

BE CONDITIONED ON COMPLETION OF NEGOTIATIONS BY ANY PARTICULAR DATE.

2. MATSUURA USED OPPORTUNITY OF MEETING TO STRESS ONCE AGAIN THAT GOJ SEES NO LEGAL BASIS NOR EXTENDING SPECIAL PRIVILEGES TO US EMPLOYEES OF JOINT INSTITUTE.

3. MATSUURA'S SCHEDULE ON WASHINGTON VISIT REPORTED IN REF B DID NOT PERMIT HIM TO HOLD DISCUSSIONS WITH USG ON ABCC NEGOTIA-

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 03338 131043Z

TIONS.

ON MAR 11, HE AGAIN EXPRESSED REGRET TO SCICOUNS THAT PREPARATION OF GOJ DRAFTS FOR ABCC RESTRUCTURING STILL LAGGING. HOWEVER, MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND WELFARE (MHW) HAS COMPLETED ITS DRAFT OF FOUNDATION CHARTER AND FONOFF DRAFT OF INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT IS MAKING PROGRESS. MATSUURA STILL HOPES THAT DRAFTS CAN BE TRANSMITTED BY END OF MARCH, ALLOWING INITIAL DISCUSSIONS TO BE HELD IN TOKYO IN APRIL AS ANTICIPATED IN REF B.

4. WITH REGARD TO PAYMENT PROBLEMS, AFTER SEVERAL DISCUSSIONS, IT APPEARS THAT MHW HAS FOUND ADMINISTRATIVE MEANS TO COVER ABCC FY 1974 DEFICIT ESTIMATED AT \$700,000, OR 2,000,000 YEN AT 285 EXCHANGE RATE. DRAFT OF NIH-ABCC CONTRACT REFERRED TO IN REF C STILL NOT PROVIDED, BUT EXPECTED BY ABCC END OF THIS WEEK. DR. ALLEN, ABCC, HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT THIS CONTRACT REQUIRES NAS-AEC APPROVAL, AND HAS ASSURED US THAT THIS APPROVAL WILL BE SOUGHT.

5. ON MAR 12, LOWER HOUSE OF DIET APPROVED GOJ BUDGET, WHICH NOW GOES INTO EFFECT NO LATER THAN THIRTY DAYS AFTER APPROVAL EVEN IF UPPER HOUSE FAILS TO APPROVE BEFORE THAT TIME. MATSUURA HAS INFORMED US THAT DESPITE LOWER HOUSE APPROVAL, CONTINUING DEBATES IN DIET MAY MAKE IT NECESSARY TO PROVIDE DIET WITH DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE THAT PRESENT ARRANGEMENT IS INTERIM IN NATURE, AND THAT US AND JAPAN ARE IN AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE THAT INSTITUTE BE RESTRUCTURED AS JOINT INSTITUTE UNDER JAPANESE LAW, WITH JOINT FINANCING AND MANAGEMENT. SUCH COMMUNICATION WOULD ALSO DOCUMENT NEED FOR GOJ FUNDS THIS YEAR TO MEET OVERALL OPERATING COSTS. IF THIS NEED MATERIALIZES, EMBASSY MAY BE REQUESTED TO EXCHANGE NOTES TO THIS EFFECT ON SHORT NOTICE. MATSUURA WAS INFORMED THAT THIS MIGHT BE POSSIBLE, BUT WOULD CLEARLY REQUIRE WASHINGTON APPROVAL. SHOESMITH

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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